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A

COMMENT

On a late Extraordinary

LETTER

FROM THE

E. of *C*-- to the D. of *B*--

LATELY

Handed about in *London*;

IN WHICH

An UNION between the two KINGDOMS is impartially CONSIDERED.

By a NOBLEMAN.

———— *Alterius sic*
Altera poscit opem. HOR.

LONDON:

PRINTED in the YEAR M. DCC. LX.

COMPLAINT

On the Extraordinary

LETTER

BRITISH MUSEUM

A

COMMENT, &c.

THE farce of Mock Patriotism having so long amused the public of all free nations in general, and particularly that of *Ireland*, (if in a strict sense it can be reckoned such) that it is justly fallen into disrepute; being only the political and interested pretending of a few, to ensnare the many by false lures, and a deceitful tinkling of words, that they may become the willing drudges, and implicit dupes, of their particular and sinister machinations,

Among those who have sallied adventurers in the cause of true national interest among the *Irish*, the first on the list is *Molyneaux*, who wrote the case of *Ireland*; among the living is the (O Shame!) unmitred Doctor *Madan*! Hear this Y——, great Bro-ker of Hesperonesian *Episcopacy*, eke *Peerage*, and tremble; the tremendous day of reckoning is not now far off.

To those who may wonder why we mention not *Swift*, the reply is obvious, because we look upon him as the chieftain of the accidental, and false patriots; to wit, men whose exertions in behalf of the public weal arises not so much from a native and

inherent affection for their country, as from reſentment, the offspring of their ambitious views being thwarted elſe-where.

Thus people defeated of all hopes to get the influencing of miniſterial power into their hands, retire indignant, and become boiſterous leaders in remote provinces.

Had *Swift* been preferred in *England* according to his wiſhes, who would have ever heard of the *Drapier* and his anti-miniſterial atchievement?—To ſay nothing of latter mock attempts at *Patriotiſm*, ſo juſtly contemptible, in that kingdom, we ſhall confine ourſelves at preſent to Comments on a late Extraordinary Letter, which makes fools ſtare, and all thinking men ſhrug their ſhoulders.

A Copy of a Letter from the E--l of *Cl—de* to the D— of *B—*.

Dublin, printed in the Year 1760.

Camp at Wincheſter, Auguſt 1, 1760.

My Lord,

(I.)

WHEN a man can once ſo far diveſt himſelf of principle of *honour* and *honeſty*, as to treat another injuriouſly, I can eaſily conceive he muſt be dead to every call of *honour*, and incapable of acting with *ſpirit*. This I have with concern, lived to ſee verified in the perſon of your G—e: I ſay concern, becauſe however ill you may deſerve it of me, I own I feel a part of the *diſgrace* that you bring on nobility.

(II.)

It is not now neceſſary to recapitulate the treatment I received from you laſt winter, nor ſhall I enquire whether it proceeded from caprice, or *pecuniary diſappointments*; but the reſult was, my then declared reſentment of it, with an aſſurance of my convincing you the firſt opportunity that offered, that no man dare uſe me ill with impunity.

(III.)

As ſoon as your return home permitted, I went to town in hopes of ſeeing you; but either accident or deſign prevented it. I then wrote to you, deſiring an interview; to which letter I received no anſwer. On your coming into this country, I ſent an officer of the Earl of *Effingham*'s regiment to you with a *meſſage*, acquainting you, that I ſhould be the Tueſday following at *Winchester*, and deſired the favour of ſeeing you: but how great was my ſurprize and confuſion to receive an abſolute refuſal of meeting me in the *manner* I propoſed, but that you were to dine with other company at your ſon's tent; and if I would come there at half an hour after one o'clock in the afternoon, that you ſhould be glad to ſee me. I did not, indeed, think it conſiſtent with my reputation to expoſe myſelf to a certain and ſhameful arreſt.

(IV.)

I was punctual to my time and place, (and you ſhall ever find me ſo) of which you were no ſtranger. When I found I could not tempt you to the town, I went into the camp, and publicly appeared, and ſpent almoſt the whole day and night with the thirty-fourth regiment.

(V.)

I have for ſome weeks paſt deferred a journey I muſt take into Ireland, in hopes, that either recol-

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lection or friends, might ſtimulate you to a proper conduct: but as all my endeavours have been ineffectual, I find myſelf reduced to this method of ſeting the affair in a proper light.——Good God! that a man who has thought himſelf qualified for almoſt every high office under his Majeſty; who has *forced* himſelf into the liſt of Lieutenant Generals, ſhould ſtill want ſpirit to meet me face to face!

(VI.)

But, my Lord, a man, who cooly and unprovoked, would ruin a whole nation, muſt be loſt to all ſenſe of *honour* or *juſtice*. Your iniquitous ſchemes againſt the liberty of my poor injured country, ſit heavier on my mind than my perſonal wrongs: theſe, my Lord, I might have gained upon myſelf to have deſpiſed, when I conſidered the author of them. But your intended proſtitution of favours, tho' they might, by accident, be ſometimes beſtowed on the Deſerving; your diabolical attempts of an UNION; your many acts of oppreſſion in that poor country; are events that *death*, only can make me *forget* or *forgive:* and believe me, my Lord, however ſagacious you may think yourſelf, there are ſtill many honeſt, *incorruptible* men left, who, in defence of their country, will *watch* and *oppoſe* any attempts of yours, or your ſucceſſors, againſt it: and yet, I can hardly perſuade myſelf that you are the firſt cauſe of all the calamities that have lately attended that kingdom; and that they are rather the machinations of the *wretch* you unfortunately for yourſelf, have placed your confidence in. Happy, my Lord, had it been for you and that country, if the halter had done its office:—an operation I may ſee performed. Indeed, your *Jack-Alt* is ſo totally loſt to every impulſe of ſentiment, that it is almoſt a reflection on an *honeſt* man to know him: be that as it will, he may depend upon it, that if ever chance throws him in my way, he will find,

find, the *gallows* was eaſier avoided than *fractured bones*.

(VII.)

I have now ſo amply explained my thoughts to you, that I ſhall leave you to digeſt them: all that I ſhall therefore add, is, that in juſtification of my own character, I ſhall make this Letter public.

I am, my Lord, yours,

CL-NR-C-RDE, &c. &c.

In the ſubſequent Comments on the preceding Letter, we ſhall be careful to act with all manner of caution, candour, and circumſpection, without inclining (but as far as truth ſhall direct, and the ſtricteſt ſcrutiny authenticate) to the ſide of either the *Engliſh* D*uke*, or *Iriſh* E*arl*, both being perſonages deſcended from very antient and illuſtrious families.

We premiſe at ſetting out, that we think the ſtile of the Letter on the whole to be (although ſpirited) fraught with too much heat and acrimony; which muſt appear to every reader—We ſhall proceed paragraph by paragraph, as we have numbered them.

The Firſt, contains a ſevere, heavy, and cruel charge againſt his G—e; which we muſt look upon as the bare aſſertion of anger; inaſmuch as no ground-work to found it upon is produced. Paſſionate declamation, not ſeconded by any proof, may make an ignorant populace, and thoſe who, from a preverſeneſs of human nature, love to hear their betters abuſed, to gape; but can never flaſh the leaſt ray of conviction upon unintereſted and calm

calm bye-ſtanders; ſuch as we profeſs ourſelves to be.

In regard to the ſecond paragraph, we humbly diſſent from the noble letter-writer, and think it was neceſſary in order to give a proper force (or that which he deſired it ſhould have) to his letter, to recapitulate the treatment which he had received from his G—e laſt winter; from which expoſition the public would be the better enabled to judge whether his G—e's mal-treatment had proceeded from *caprice* or *pecuniary diſappointments*; and whether his G—e's proceeding was of a nature to be let to paſs with impunity.

The purport of the third paragraph is, that by *meſſage* we are to underſtand a covered *challenge*.—But here recurs the original objection, to wit, the nature of this enormous, but concealed affront.

Becauſe by a knowledge thereof we ſhould be qualified to determine whether it were of ſo malignant a complexion, as that the illuſtrious tranſgreſſor could not, conſiſtent with manhood, courage, military honour, and his own dignity, decline giving the required ſatisfaction.

If otherwiſe, his G—e was in the right to decline a meeting upon a charge left in the dark. In all impleaded affronts two things are to be nicely canvaſſed and minutely conſidered; to wit,—whether the affront be more in the imagination of the ſelf-ſuppoſed affronted; or that it groſsly ſtare upon all hearers from the very forehead of the deed.

In the former caſe, every man of prudent courage is diſculpated; in the latter, innate bravery (ſuch as through ages hath been inherent in the family of the *R——s*) will ſuggeſt to every perſon how

how to proceed in conformity with the nice and ſtimulating principles of honour.

But in either ſenſe, we do not think an arreſt (ſuppoſing the very certainty of it) would be *ſhameful* to the *E—l*; becauſe if his ſuppoſed affront were a miſconceived one, the arreſt would prevent the effuſion of noble blood on either ſide; but if it were one in the groſs meaning of the word, the ſhame of an arreſt would moſt certainly recoil upon him who had been baſe enough to give an affront, and proved himſelf daſtard enough (inſtead of giving the ſatisfaction due not only from nobleman to nobleman, but from gentleman to gentleman) to make uſe of a fineſſe to deprive the affronted of the liberty to act, according as a proper feeling ſhould direct.—But no ſuch thing as an arreſt having happened, it is merely begging the queſtion; therefore that charge remains in the chapter of doubt, and nothing can be thence concluded.

All that can be remarked on the fourth paragraph is, that the diſſatisfaction in queſtion, might by the time alluded to, have tranſpired, and been ſpread throughout the camp; that therefore the public appearance of the Offended there, muſt have ſpread an alarm, which in all probability would have fruſtrated all hopes of any deciſive operation.

Although in the fifth paragraph be inſerted, "I "find myſelf reduced to this method of ſetting the "affair in a proper light;" yet we are not let to ſee any farther into it there, than at the commencement of the Letter. This aſſertion appears to ſpring from a brain deeply ſtricken with the cauſe of its own ſoreneſs, and that conſequently thinks every other perſon's ought to be ſo too.

The remainder of the paragraph is as unguarded, as what precedes is vague and incoherent. It

is not a man's thinking himſelf qualified for every place, that can obtain it; it muſt flow from him that is veſted with the ſupreme power of conferring ſuch dignities: wherefore all indiſcreet reflections on that head glance indirectly at the very fountain of honour. To have *forced* one's-ſelf into the liſt of lieutenant-generals, conveys rather an idea of reſolution, than an implied cenſure of cowardice.—To have *wriggled* himſelf by mean artifices into the liſt of lieutenant-generals, would have been a more ſtinging impeachment.

As for the charge of wanting ſpirit to meet him face to face, ſeveral reaſons might have been aſſigned; and among others, phyſicians might alledge, that on account of the *canine rage* that was ſo contagiouſly prevalent throughout *England* laſt ſummer, it was a leading regimen preſcribed to all prudent perſons, and enjoying the ſober uſe of their ſenſes, by all means to avoid having a private interview with men irraſcibly inclined, and labouring under a violent irritability of fibres. Beſides, the high and united characters of prince, privy-counſellor, and vice-roy, are not obliged, in a Don Quixote ſtrain, to run a ſkirmiſhing upon every idle occurrence, to attain the frantic character of a fighting man; which, however eſteemed in the Weſt, is diſreputable, and looked upon with contempt in England; whoſe leſs paſſionate inhabitants chuſe to reſerve their courage for ſhedding an enemy's, and not their fellow-ſubject's, blood, idly and wantonly.

The ſixth being the paragraph in the letter fraught with the moſt importance, we ſhall be the more explicit, diffuſe, and circumſtantial thereupon as we can, not only pertinently, but with the greateſt propriety, introduce ſome obſervations highly intereſting; nay, of the laſt conſequence to the induſtrious

duſtrious and ſenſible part of the people of *Ireland*; who may love to ſee with their own eyes, hear with their own ears, and chuſe not to let their underſtanding be ſtunned, or run away with by the noiſy bell-weathers of this or that party, or faction.

The paragraph begins with a wildly-ſtarting tranſition in the Pindaric ſtrain, from the E—l's *ſelf*, to unexpected lamentations on the nation's miſery; he, a new and *Iriſh* Jeremiah, bewailing the deplorable ſituation of the iſle of *Saints*; which no man, as the noble impleader aſſerts, would have attempted, but one "*loſt to all ſenſe of honour or ju-*"*ſtice.*"

"The iniquitous ſchemes againſt the liberty of "his poor injured country," which he ſays, "ſit "heavier on his mind than his perſonal wrongs," he ſhould have related; otherwiſe how is it poſſible for the public, before whoſe tribunal he complains, to be able to judge thereof, and pronounce in conſequence, adequately and impartially, as to the merits of the cauſe.

The E—l with equal inaccuracy, omits to give us any information of what were the iniquitous ſchemes hatching againſt his country, as well as of what had been his own particular mal-treatment on the part of his G—e.

He bounds from a charge of the intended proſtitution of favours, to his having "by accident "ſometimes beſtowed them on the deſerving." For an illuſtrating inſtance of this conceſſion, we believe that among the foremoſt may be quoted the learned and ingenious Doctor *Fr—s A-d——s* now provoſt of the univerſity of Dublin.

He needs but to be known to be eſteemed and valued, as he now is, by all who have the pleaſure of his acquaintance, and which hath been experienced by ſeveral in the firſt rank of our Engliſh nobility. With a clear head he enjoys a ſincere heart;—the good-natured and inviting benevolence of his diſpoſition is to be equalled only by his humane and tender feeling for others. No greater ſatisfaction can be procured for him, than an opportunity of ſerving the worthy, and reſcuing merit from obſcurity.

But ſtop—this is no place for panegyric; beſides, a faint ſketch of that gentleman's various good qualities, would challenge more room than can be afforded in this Commenting Diſquiſition of the Noble E—'s Letter. We ſhall therefore confine ourſelves to this ſingle obſervation, that in the promotion of ſo deſerving a ſubject as Doctor *A-dr—s* his G—e of *B—*, ſo far from injuring, has paid a high compliment to Ireland, in thus raiſing one of her moſt worthy ſons to preſide over her chief ſeminary for the education of youth.——

Now follows the moſt grievous impeachment againſt his G—e, to wit, "*Your diabolical attempts of* "*an* UNION." As this topic hath been debated a thouſand and a thouſand times over by many warm advocates, on both ſides of the queſtion, we ſhall throw out our thoughts thereon in as conciſe a manner as poſſible, previouſly ſuppoſing, that any ſuch thing had been in agitation; which is to be doubted, as the firſt ſteps thereto ought neceſſarily to be made in *England:* none ſuch (it is notorious to all) have as yet been taken.

It muſt however appear ſtrangely ridiculous to the bulk of us Engliſhmen, who thro' idle and con-

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temptible prejudices of education, think not always the moſt favourably of our brethren in the *Weſt*, to find the Iriſh ſo alarmed; nay, ſeemingly ſcared out of their wits at the very mention of an *Union*; as if, forſooth, to be put on the ſame footing with *Engliſhmen*, were to prove diſhonourable to them.

Such odd and groundleſs apprehenſions muſt take riſe, either from a perhaps too high and exalted an opinion the *Iriſh* may have conceived of themſelves; or from our being in a very low and degraded ſtate indeed.

A proper attention to the ſubſequent reaſoning would make moſt of the Iriſh change their opinion about an *Union*, granting it attainable from *England*.

Who are the chief exclaimers againſt an *Union* in that kingdom?—The eſtated and the parliamentary men of *Ireland*; the former, that they may not be liable to a land-tax, no matter how much trade and induſtry be oppreſſed and ſuffer in conſequence.

The latter oppoſe it with all their might, on account, if an *Union* ſhould take place, of the great number that muſt be excluded from all hopes of ever obtaining a ſeat in parliament, and being conſequently debarred the enjoyment of a protection, ſcreening them from the legal demands of their injured creditors.

For the baſe end of defrauding, to be a member of the Iriſh Houſe of Commons, is more deſirable, and of a higher purchaſe, than one in the Engliſh, whoſe late-duration has been ſtretched out to ſeptennial only; whereas a ſeat in the *Iriſh* Houſe of Commons (no cauſe for excluſion intervening,) is enjoyed during the life of the ſovereign, or that of the perſon elected.

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The tyrannous and racking diſpoſition of the generality of *Iriſh* landlords over their tenants, for which they are ſo juſtly ſtigmatized and abhorred by an oppreſſed and ſuffering people, whoſe hereditary diſpoſitions induce them to ſqueeze their yeomanry ſo far, that the ſums extorted for lands and houſes, reſemble more the violence of contributions raiſed by an armed enemy, than a juſt tribute received by the foſtering and paternal hand of a landlord, from tenants for whom he has bowels of affection, rejoices in their welfare, and looks upon as partly Members of his family.

But ſuch human weakneſſes are entirely unknown, and derided as womaniſh feelings, by that oppreſſive crew of paultry tyrants, known in *Ireland* by the odious denomination of *Rack-Rent* landlords, who are highly grieved at a tenant's daring to ſhew a chearful countenance, or having any air of opulence about his houſe and family: while on the other hand, no miſery of tenants, however in the extreme, can affect their Stoic hearts, ſo that they can graſp the laſt ſhilling of the diſtreſſed.

Yet ſuch men as theſe deſcribed are the firſt to take an alarm at the leaſt mention of an *Union*, to affright and ſet a madding their connections, dependants, and all poor people under them, with violent outcries that the nation is going to be enſlaved, that liberty and religion are to be overturned.

The multitude, affected by theſe words, for which they had been taught to have ſuch a veneration from their infancy, catch the contagion of falſe patriotiſm, let themſelves be halloo'd on, without being informed, or enquiring why or wherefore although what little real cauſe they have to in-

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reſt themſelves in ſuch affairs, obviouſly appears from the above given picture of their too frequently wretched and moſt deplorable ſituation; by far ſurpaſſing that of people in the ſame rank of life to be found in any other kingdom of *Europe*.

It muſt, however, be owned (as we have been lately informed) that the the deceaſed worthy father of the preſent Mr. *Connolly*, married to his Grace the Duke of *Richmond*'s ſiſter, was one of the firſt who gave an example of that humanity with which the landlords in *England* are wont to treat their tenants.

He, finding ſeveral of them in large arrears, enquired the cauſe? — The general anſwer was, that the lands being lett to them at too high a rate, it was impoſſible for all their unabated induſtry to pay it, and ſupport their poor families, though in a very mean manner.

Upon ſuch diſagreeable information, he applied to intelligent perſons in the neighbouring parts of the country, to walk with him at unobſerved hours through the farms of thoſe who were in arrears; and upon being aſſured that the lands had been leaſed at too high a rate, he gave a diſcharge from all demands to each inſolvent debtor. Nor would he after lett any land at higher terms than he was well convinced it could bear, in order to pay him his rent, and that the leſſees might at the ſame time live comfortably, and reap ſome fruit from the ſweat of their brows.

Several of the nobility and gentry have ſince, and do daily, copy ſo noble and worthy an example, with a truly patriotic emulation, which (it is to be hoped) will diffuſe itſelf through all parts of that kingdom, as it would turn out of infinitely

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more eſſential ſervice to the people, than idle bickerings in an *unconſequential Parliament*, or fooliſh, ridiculous, and unavailing attempts of oppoſition againſt the mother country.

Leſt any perſons ſhould take umbrage, be offended at, or accuſe us of a partial impropriety in uſing (as they may perhaps call them) the invidious terms of *unconſequential Parliament*, relative to *Ireland*; ſome of whoſe zealous ſenators have appeared of late ſo uppiſh and clamorous in defence of their conſtitutional freedom: we think it incumbent on us to explain and elucidate our meaning.

That *Parliament* is certainly *unconſequential*, whoſe acts cannot be of any the leaſt force, till they have firſt obtained the precarious approbation of the At——y G——l of *England*. So, notwithſtanding whatever conteſts, party-exertion, and factious ſtrife may be excited in *Ireland*; the populace of the ſeveral contending parties knocking each other down: yet can this (to them) foreign man of the law, give a quietus to all ſuch frantic buſtling, by ſubmitting the act or acts productive of ſuch heat and animoſity, to the ſtilling and peaceable compreſſion of his poſteriors. Any parliament ſo circumſtanced may then truly be called *unconſequential*, and merely nominal.

Therefore, 1ſt, whatever conſequence the *Iriſh* ſenators may affect; and 2dly, however important they may appear in their own eyes, the above fact, too ſtubborn to be denied or refuted, proves the nothingneſs of the former; and their inſignificancy, as part of the *Britiſh* Empire, will appear by the following *Anecdote*;

Some years paſt one of the haſtily ſprung-up, and hot-bed patriots of *Ireland*, being agitated with

with violent throes for the oppreſſion, ſufferings, &c. of his poor bleeding country, (as the trite and hackneyed phraſe in that kingdom is) declared publickly againſt abiding any longer in a realm where ſuch corruption was prevalent; and in order to have it purified and regenarated to virtue, he hied away as faſt as he could to *London*.

He there waited brimful of national concern on a certain great perſonage who had formerly been intruſted with the vicegerency of that kingdom: having aſked and calmly heard the petitioner, he replied: "Pray Sir, have you any buſineſs or profeſſion to be employed about?" The ſtaring out-of-breath patriot anſwered in the affirmative.—

The ſenſible nobleman, with a good-natured ſmile obſerved to him: "That the eruptive and intereſted nationality of a few ambitious men in *Ireland* was a mere farce, and quite ſeen through in *England*; that he adviſed him to return to his buſineſs, and mind it, as the beſt and fitteſt patriotiſm he could be guilty of; for that however big the Parliamentarians of *Ireland* might appear to each other, and their dependants, no-body in *England* ever thought of, or troubled their heads about them, excepting the L—d L———t for the time being; the S——t—y for the affairs of that provincial kingdom; and the landlord of the poſt-houſe at *Cheſter*."

The weſtern patriot ſtood for ſome time aghaſt at the ſtrange things he had heard, but ſoon recovering the uſe of his ſtaggered ſenſes and being entirely diſmounted from all his miſconceived high notions of *Hibernian* power and glory, he gratefully thanked his inſtructor, took his advice and returned to his buſineſs.

The ceſſation of an ineffectual parliament can be no way detrimental to *Ireland*; but on the contrary, ſuppoſing an *Union* granted.—Then but a ſtipulated number from *Ireland* could be admitted into the Engliſh Houſe.

The election of *Iriſh* members, by reaſon of the ewneſs, muſt then light on men of very conſiderable property in that kingdom; thereby leſs liable to be warped by venal and mercenary motives here. —A number of ſuch men by their own exertion, and intereſt made here, could render infinitely more ſervice, in promoting the welfare of their country, than the now circumſcribed parliament held in *Dublin* can pretend to effectuate.

The two great objections are: 1, If an *Union* were to take place, moſt of the land propertied people of *Ireland* would repair to and reſide in *England*. The ready anſwer to that is—has it not been long their practice ſo to do without an *Union*? ——The advantages of a free trade would ſoon over-pay to the kingdom any increaſe of remittances to abſentees.

The other objection; is that *Dublin*, the capital city of *Ireland*, and ſaid to be the fineſt ſecond city any power in *Europe* can boaſt of, muſt go to ruin, one of the chief ſources of its wealth hitherto ariſing from the Viceroy's reſiding, and the Parliament's meeting there; which draw to it ſuch a concourſe of nobility, *&c.*

The private intereſt of any one city or province ought never to preponderate over the general welfare of a kingdom.—Beſides, ſome means might be deviſed to prevent the decay of *Dublin*; as a kind of national aſſembly from among the nobles and

gentry

gentry to meet in *Dublin*, to tranſmit inſtructions, &c. to the nation's repreſetatives in the *Engliſh* Parliament.

Dublin may likewiſe in time become the occaſional reſidence of ſome of the younger branches of the Royal Family, delegated as chief in power, under a title different from that of Lord-Lieutenant. Theſe are only far diſtant hints humbly ſubmitted to the improvement of the more ingenious, and who can penetrate farther into the events of futurity, than we dare preſume.

But in proportion as *Dublin* ſhould decay, how would *Corke* riſe and flouriſh? which even now is reported to pay more to the King's revenue, than all the kingdom of *Scotland*, or as the natives are fonder of calling it, *North-Britain*.

The reply to this inſinuation will be: "No doubt *Corke*, in a ſhort proceſs of time, would from its very happy ſituation become one of the moſt commercial, and conſequently one of the moſt wealthy cities in *Europe*, were *England* to grant a fair and unreſtrained *Union* to *Ireland*. But that cannot be expected, as ſhe muſt be too great a ſufferer herſelf, by ſuch an act of condeſcenſion to her younger ſiſter.

Would it not be all one for the coffers of *England*, whether the money they contain, had been collected in *Corke* and other ports along the Weſtern and Southern coaſts of *Ireland*, or from *Liverpool*, *Yarmouth*, &c.

What an advantageous king's yard for the ſhips of war might be made on the Weſtern coaſt of *Ireland*, from which they might go out readily, and be ever before-hand with any *French*

fleet, or other aſſailing us in the Atlantic Ocean, or intended againſt *North America*, &c.

The younger ſons of the ſeveral great trading houſes in *England* might be eſtabliſhed in *Ireland*, and carry on buſineſs there in partnerſhip with their friends at home.——The manufacturing of coarſe cloths, which the *French* have defeated us in, would be ſoon recovered by the *Iriſh*.

Theſe hints are ſufficient to evince, that an *Union* between the two kingdoms of *England* and *Ireland* would become greatly beneficial to the latter, without injuring ſo much the former, as is too generally imagined; when we conſider that almoſt as faſt as the money could be got there: it would be ſent over, and expended here.

So much in defence of his G—e, if he had an *Union* in view. We now ſuppoſe that by the many "acts of oppreſſion in that poor country," for which he is accuſed; is meant, his diſcountenancing the private banks there; the total deſtruction of which, and the erecting a national one in their ſtead, would be the moſt effectual ſervice that could be rendered to that kingdom; inſomuch as it would ſecure the monied property of the people, now rendered but too fluctuating and uncertain by the frequent failure of private banks, as has been felt ſo grievouſly there of late.—Let it be remembered that Dean *Swift*, foreſeeing what miſchief private bankers ſhould cauſe, declared for one of them being hanged from time to time, to ſerve as a memento for others.

I hope what his Lordſhip aſſerts will always be true for the ſake of *Ireland*, "that *there* are ſtill "many honeſt and incorruptible men;" becauſe we

we are ſure all ſuch will never be againſt a fair *Union*, if it can be obtained; nor againſt the ſuppreſſion of private banks, for the getting a national one, where the people may ſafely lodge their money at *5 per Cent.* (or at leaſt 4) which would be a great advantage to the public there.

Here the D—e is let go in order to take up " the Wretch, &c." See paragraph. It requires no great conjuration to gueſs, that this moſt amiable picture was meant for a delineation of Mr. *R*——. We are alſo left in the dark in regard to his capital offence, as we had been to thoſe of his Maſter.—*Gallows* and *fractured bones* convey very ignoble and executionary images———.

We cannot find, agreeable to the concluſion, how his Lordſhip can have juſtified his character, by making a letter public, which is not at all declaratory of the ill treatment he charges and accuſes himſelf to have received.—Therefore the Public muſt remain abſolutely indifferent about a matter, of which it has received neither a ſatisfactory, nor even an indirect information.

In regard to the *fracturing* of bones, no fear—That implies the athletic exerciſes of either *bruiſing*, or *cudgel-playing*; at both which games it is generally imagined Mr. *R*——*y* is a greater adept than his Lordſhip, he being a tried man in thoſe more ancient methods of ſelf-defence, than are the modern innovations of ſword and piſtol: from neither of which, however, there is reaſon to aſſert he would ſhew himſelf averſe, or, as the vulgar phraſe terms it, ſhy.

Were, through the prevailing force of the E—l, Mr. *R*—*y*'s bones to be fractured, ſuch an accident might furniſh to the votaries of chance (ever

on

on the watch to make the moſt of any occurrence) a new topic for betting. As for example, that his arm would be cured before his thigh, and ſo on.

He himſelf need not be idle in the mean time, and on ſo trying an occaſion; but on the contrary, inſtruct thoſe, whom he ſhould chuſe to go in partnerſhip with, how to firſt ſtart, and after hedge off the betts.

This would be fulfilling that excellent remark of a great modern philoſopher, who ſays: "The prudent man takes care to draw from every accident of life, however detrimental a complexion it may wear, as much advantage as poſſible."

But as from the inſinuation of Mr. *R*—'s having eſcaped the gallows, there may remain impreſs'd on the minds of many people, quite unacquainted with the late tranſactions in *Ireland*, a no way favourable opinion of his uprightneſs, integrity, and moral character in general——Be it known, that Mr. *R*—*y* had been, while Secretary in a neighbouring kingdom, never once impleaded before a legal court there, for any crime or miſdemeanour whatſoever; and that the *extraordinary gallows* on which the thread of his life, as was wickedly intended, ſhould receive its final twiſt, was the inſtrument of mere popular phrenzy; which had been excited to an outrageous degree, by ſome bankrupts in patriotiſm; and in certain ambitious, as well as pecuniary views.

Theſe reſtleſs men gave too great an indulgence to that rancorous malice which they had entertained againſt the viceroy's Secretary; by whoſe means they imagined they had been defeated from the poſſeſſion of thoſe very lucrative places, they had

had flattered themſelves with the hopes of attaining.

But on finding their ſanguine wiſhes fruſtrated, they determined, at all events, to wreak their vengeance on the perſon they ſuppoſed the occaſion. To make their wicked deſire be the more effectually carried into execution, they diſpatched their emiſſaries to every quarter of the capital, in order to diſperſe all manner of groundleſs and ſiniſter reports to poiſon the minds of the people againſt the Secretary; as for example: "That through the ſuggeſtion of the devil, he was hatching ſome bills to be laid before their parliament, which, were they to take place, their poor country's ruin ſhould be inevitable."

This incendiary doctrine of the diſappointed pſeudo-patriots, roſe to ſo atrocious a degree, as to encourage the leaders of the rabble (ever fond of miſchief) to cry aloud in the ſtreets: "Our ſituation is deplorable; we are a people devoted to ruin by the ſcheming of a Machiavel Secretary: whoſe life it is better ſhould be taken away by the hands of the people, than that they ſhould be reduced to miſery, to ſatiate his rapacious avarice."

In order to accompliſh their mad reſolution, a gallows was prepared, and carried in a triumphant manner at the head of many thouſands of the paltry mob-patriots, zealous in proportion to their poverty; they declaring all the way, that they would take away *R*—'s life in the moſt infamous manner, and aſſign but one of their country, to bear him company, in remembrance of the antient hoſpitality of that kingdom.

But neither the principally, nor acceſſarily deſigned for ſo unexpected and popular an exal-

tation,

tation, being over-pleaſed with the advancing compliment; by the advice of their friends, they eloped through back and private ways, from the rage of this mob-patriot inquiſition; which being diſappointed of their prey, violently forced into the ſenate-houſe, and poſſeſſed themſelves thereof, having turned out a few members. They continued to commit ſeveral indecencies, and outrages, till aparty of the King's troops approaching, put an end to their national vagaries, and made them think of retreating to their reſpective homes.

From this true, and ſuccinct account, it obviouſly appears, that no ſtain can, ought, or does remain on Mr. *R*——'s character, conſequent to the irregular and rebellious proceedings of an inſtigated and madding populace; whoſe turbulent ſpirit, remarkable for a number of years, will very likely take fire, and be excited to new ferments, by the letter we have commented on; of which printed copies had been diſtributed throughout that perplexed and harraſſed kingdom; and ſeveral ſent hither incloſed in poſt letters.

L. . . .

Nov. 11, 1760.

FINIS.